

BA-192

0-1-100
Pleasant Prospect
Western Run Rd. and
Tanyard Rd.
Not accessible
1824

Pleasant Prospect was the home of a prosperous Quaker farmer whose family operated a tannery there for three generations. It was built in 1824 by Jesse Scott and left to his son, Abraham Scott III who expanded it in 1832.

The substantial house is traditional in its design, showing little alteration through the years. A large number of supporting buildings remain, including a drying house and vat house related to the tanning industry. The barn is especially significant, due to its large size, its aesthetically perfect design and its unaltered condition.

BALTIMORE COUNTY LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

PLEASANT PROSPECT

BA-192

AND/OR COMMON

TANYARD FARM,

Scott's Plantation

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER North side Western Run Road, both sides of Tanyard Road
3rd Councilmanic District

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

☒ VICINITY OF

2nd Congressional District

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

John W. Edelen, Jr.

Home: 771-4471

Telephone #: Office: 252-3030

STREET & NUMBER

Tanyard Road

CITY, TOWN

Sparks

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21152

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. County Courts Building

Liber #: GLB 3060

Folio #: 433

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

21 State Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

78 DESCRIPTION

BA-192

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN, PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A good description of the style and building technique of the Tanyard Farm structures is given by H. Chandlee Forman in his architectural book of 1956:

.... the existing stone dwelling, Pleasant Prospect, was erected in 1824 by Jesse Scott, son of Abraham Scott, Jr., and his wife Elizabeth. The stonework of the front and the gables is excellent limestone masonry, of which we present a detail (p. 186) as a good sample of early nineteenth-century work

At the rear of Pleasant Prospect homestead the wall is built of coarser stuff--the typical brown field stone, gneiss, of this region.

After serving for about sixty-six years, the log cabin, which adjoined the 1824 house already described, was taken down (1838), and in its stead a new stone kitchen room was constructed. This wing still stands, and possesses two fireplaces each facing the other, one of them a remnant of the log building. To complete the history of this plantation house, we should mention the modern wing of 1939-40 which was added to the west gable.

.... the tannery comprised three stone structures on the edge of the Yard. In 1951 two of these buildings still survived: the Vat House, about twenty-two feet by twenty-eight, and the Drying or Finishing or Curing House, about eighteen feet by twenty-two. The third, long since gone, was the Bark House, about twenty-two by forty-four feet.

On Pleasant Prospect there are other outbuildings: the barn (p. 187), the corn house, the smoke house, the spring house--all substantially built of stone. An oven, separate from the dwelling and located next to the smoke house, has been destroyed. On the spring house are a carved date and initials, "1830 ARS," the letters standing for Abraham Scott III and his wife Rachel. In the same manner the stone kitchen wing has the date "1838" and "AS" for Abraham III. (1)

Dimensions of some of the buildings were shown in the 1918 tax ledger (Dist. 4, f. 29), when the property was charged to (Mrs.) Ella F. S. Bosley:

(1) Forman, 1956, pp. 165, 168.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

BA-192

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1824; 1838 main houseBUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Tanyard Farm is part of the large Scott Plantation that was founded by Abraham Scott in 1765 on the tracts Pleasant Prospect and Regulation. Scott, like so many millers, was a Quaker and he built the Hebron Mill about 1770. The mill was south of Western Run Road, not part of Tanyard Farm, however. The 1798 tax list is lacking in details about the individual buildings, listing only "1 old barn--1 stone mill house" and giving no dimensions.

H. Chandlee Forman's 1956 book on tidewater architecture presents a drawing based on a photo of the 1870's--the photo has to predate the year 1879, when Hebron Mill was destroyed by fire. Forman identifies each of the many Scott dwellings and outbuildings. (1)

Forman also states that Abraham Scott's original dwelling was a log house that stood on present Tanyard Farm. His son Jesse Scott added a large stone wing to the cabin in 1824, and in 1838 demolished the log remnant and replaced it with a kitchen wing of stone, identified by a date-stone.

As estimated by Forman, tanning operations began in 1800, and the plant continued its crude out-of-doors production through three generations of the family: started by Jesse Scott, continued by Abraham Scott III, and finally wound up by Edwin Scott about 1885.

Country tanyards (as well as town tanyards) were of necessity foul smelling places and the hides were soaked in water vats, and in lime vats, and acid vats, and the works was equipped with a variety of pits sunk in the ground, lined with boards or stone to contain the solutions. No tanning vats are known to survive intact in Baltimore County, or in the State at large. William H. Bosley, Jr. wrote a how-to-do-it article on tanning in 1938 and noted that the oak bark needed by the Scotts for making tannic acid became scarce as the large stands of forest were used up. The last supplies of bark came from the Mt. Carmel neighborhood in the upper county. (2)

Elizabeth I. Scott and Ella F. Scott inherited the place in 1907, and Ella F. Scott became sole owner and married William H. Bosley. None of the tanyard buildings were worth listing individually at the time of

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Barrack	50 X 24	\$265
Dwelling	(2) 15 X 54	635
Bank Barn	50 X 34	571
Corn House; Wagon Shed and Other Buildings		150

The bank barn is particularly notable for its "hourglass" ventilation louvers formed by decorative brickwork.

ITEM 8 SIGNIFICANCE
CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 1

TAN YARD FARM

the 1918 tax list. Mrs. Scott sold the farm to the present owner, John W. Edelen, Jr. in 1956 (Deeds GLB 3060:433). Mr. Edelen has spent considerable sums keeping the main house and old buildings in repair.

- (1) Forman, 1956, p. 167.
- (2) Bosley, 1938, p. 5.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Henry Chandlee Forman, Tidewater Maryland Architecture and Gardens (New York, 1956), pp. 164-168.

William H. Bosley, Jr., "Scott's Tan Yard," Federation PTL News, Towson, March-April, 1938, p.5.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 76.08 total area

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY	None
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STATE	COUNTY
-------	--------

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John W. McGrain

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning and Zoning

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

DATE

August 2, 1977

TELEPHONE

494-3495

STATE

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

5A-112
MAGI #030925304

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Pleasant Prospect

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Western Run and Tanyard Roads

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

John W. Edelen, Jr.

Telephone #: 771-4474

STREET & NUMBER

Western Run Road

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21030

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 3060

Folio #: 433

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Baltimore County Landmarks

DATE

1971

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☒ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Baltimore County Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

6A-192

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Pleasant Prospect is a stone house of two storeys, four bays in length, facing south; it has a stone east wing of two storeys, two bays in length; the gable roofs terminate in end chimneys of stone, each with brick arches covering the flues: The flush westerly chimney of the main house has two flues, the easterly has three and it projects slightly into the wing; the chimney at the east end of the wing has a single large flue. The rubble stonework of the south front is gray (limestone), closely matched in color, while stonework of the rear is principally brown and black fieldstone. Large roughly-worked quoins form exterior corners and masonry above openings is supported by large stone lintels of irregular sizes with only the exposed face and soffit worked smooth; limestone sills, likewise, have their tops and exposed faces worked smooth. Windows of the main house are 9/6, while those of the wing are 6/6. First storey shutters of the main house are paneled and appear to be original; when closed, their panels are arranged as a typical six panel door. Other shutters are batten. Entrances to the main house are in the second bay from the east end, and entrances to the east wing are, on the south, in the westerly bay, and on the north facade, in the easterly bay. The south entrance to the main house is sheltered by a simple one storey, one bay portico. Cornices are of wood, simply designed, and there is no rake overhang.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1824

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Pleasant Prospect, located at the northeast intersection of Western Run and Tanyard Roads, was the home of a prosperous farmer who operated a tannery there. Jesse Scott was the son of Abraham Scott II who came into Baltimore County from Pennsylvania and established a grist mill on the Western Run about 1750. The Scotts were Quakers and members of the Gunpowder Friends Meeting. Abraham purchased several tracts of land and made his home at Regulation (q.v.). At the time of his death in 1803, his son, Thomas, inherited the mill while Jesse inherited this nearby property.

The datestone in the west gable indicates that Jesse erected this dwelling in 1824. An addition on the east was built in 1832 by his son, Abraham III, as well as a springhouse dated 1836 and initialed ARS, standing for Abraham and Rachel (Matthews) Scott.

Pleasant Prospect remained in the Scott family until 1956 when purchased by the present owners.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore County Tax Assessment of 1823.

Scott Family Chart, Maryland Historical Society.

(See Continuation Sheet #5)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 93 acres ±**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION****LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Project

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

TELEPHONE

323-3798

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

BA-192

Continuation Sheet #1

Question #7 continued

High in the west gable of the main house is a stone inscribed:

JS
1824

High in the east gable of the east wing is a stone inscribed:

AS
1832

A two storey, three bay wing of frame construction was added to the west end of the house in recent years.

Internally, a narrow hall extends through the entrance bays, and the principal stair rises at the south front in the easterly bay, with intermediate landings, to the third floor. The through-hall was, originally, part of the smaller room in the northeast corner. A single larger room occupies the two westerly bays. A single large room with an enclosed winding stairway south of the east chimney is in the east wing. Both storeys are similarly planned. Fireplaces at each end of the first storey room in the wing suggest it may have been divided into two rooms, and the outline of a partition remains in the second storey, parallel to the south and north walls, centered.

Most original interior detailing remains in place, including the staircase with its turned colonnette newel receiving the round rail, the two-plane architraves with the triple bead at the change in planes and a shallow backband, the partially-raised six-panel doors, the chair rail throughout, and the mantels with their engaged fluted Doric columns supporting a paneled frieze and moulded shelf. The westerly fireplace in the wing has been covered, but the large easterly one remains open, fitted with a crane for cooking. Second storey trim is similar to

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

Question #7 continued

first, but generally simpler. The third floor is divided into two rooms and a pair of small windows flanking the west chimney is blocked by the new west wing.

Six early stone outbuildings remain: a spring house, a meat house, a grainery, a barn and two structures formerly associated with tanning - a drying house and a vat house.

The spring house is a gable roofed structure built into the hillside east of the house. Its entry in the north end is under the roof which extends northward beyond the building, its north gable supported on the stone retaining wall. In its south gable is a stone inscribed:

ARS
1836

The gable roofed stone meat house is directly north of the house, above a low stone retaining wall. Its wide doorway is through its west end, and pierced brick vents are through its south side and east end.

The buttressed stone walls of the grainery are one and one-half storeys in height; the south end wall of the upper storey and the entire north wall are of frame construction, the lower storey being open to the south. Charred log loft joists remain but the roof construction is newly built after a fire.

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

Continuation Sheet #3

Question #7 continued

The large stone bank barn has its wide entrance to the loft or upper storey through its west facade. The upper storey cantilevers over the lower east wall, and the two stone ends extend continuously to the outer east facade; the gable roof is assymetrical, the ridge being centered on the lower storey. The massive hewn framing joined with mortise and tenon remains throughout. Three pierced brick ventilators suggesting the shape of an hourglass are through each gable and two are on either side of the large west doors. High in the north gable is a datestone but vines obscure its inscription. It is probably contemporary with the house.

The drying house is built into the hillside. Its upper storey is accessible by a door through the north facade, the only opening there. The door to the lower storey is through the south wall, near the southeast corner a wide window of three six-light casements is west of the door, and a single 6/6 window above lights the upper storey. Masonry above openings is supported by stone lintels. The west end has a 6/6 window in each storey north of the flush chimney of stone which rises at the gable peak flanked by small attic windows. The east end is of frame construction with two 6/6 windows in the upper storey and a single one in the attic. A shallow shed-roofed addition extends across this end at the lower storey. The interior is fitted as a guest house, with simple finishes.

(See Continuation Sheet #4)

Question #7 continued

The vat house is one and one-half storeys high, three bays in length; the stone walls extend about four feet above the second floor. The south gable is of frame construction as is the upper portion of the north gable, where an upper door opens into the upper storey. Log joists support the upper floor and the rafters are half-lapped and pegged at the ridge. The principal entrance to the lower storey is in the middle bay of the west side.

A mounting block of stone stands immediately in front of the house, consisting of three single-stone steps and a large single-stone top platform.

Question #9 continued

Sidney, J.C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland.
(Baltimore, 1850).

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. (Philadelphia, 1877).

Forman, Henry Chandlee. Tidewater Maryland Architecture and Gardens.
(New York, 1956).